

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 171215

13

ORIGIN PM-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ADP-00 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 L-03 IGA-02 OMB-01 SS-15 /050 R

DRAFTED BY PM/PA-RGREY:DD

8/28/73 EXT. 22024

APPROVED BY PM/AWFORD

NEA/TUR - MR. N. MURPHY D

DOD - CAPT. CANTACUZENE

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R 282020Z AUG 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 171215

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, TU

SUBJECT: TURKISH REQUEST FOR USS NORFOLK

REFERENCE: (A) ANKARA 6689, (B) ANKARA 6730

1. OFFICIALS OF CITY OF NORFOLK IN VIRGINIA HAVE REQUESTED PURCHASE OF USS NORFOLK TO SERVE AS AN HISTORICAL SHRINE AND AS A SYMBOL TO THE PEOPLE OF CITY OF NORFOLK OF THEIR CONTRIBUTION TO THE U.S. DEFENSE EFFORT. USS NORFOLK IS THEREFORE NOT AVAILABLE.

2. FYI: APPRECIATE THE TRAUMA TURKISH NAVY MUST HAVE EXPERIENCED WITH DECOMMISSIONING OF YAVUZ AND POTENTIAL FOR PUBLIC RELATIONS COUP; HOWEVER, USS NORFOLK IS NOT THE RECOMMENDED SEDATIVE. USS NORFOLK IS THE ONLY SHIP OF HER CLASS CONSTRUCTED AND WAS A BEAR TO MAINTAIN DURING HER ENTIRE 16 YEARS OF COMMISSIONED SERVICE. SHIP HAS HAD A LONG HISTORY OF MAIN PROPULSION PROBLEMS BOTH WITH THE 1200 PSI BOILERS AND THE MAIN ENGINES. SPARE PARTS FOR FOUR TWIN 3-INCH/70 GUN MOUNTS COULD BE A MAJOR PROBLEM AS ONLY A FEW OF THESE MOUNTS WERE PRODUCED. MANY UNITS OF AUXILIARY

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PAGE 02 STATE 171215

MACHINERY ARE ALSO "ONE-OF-A-KIND" THAT FURTHER MAKE THE

ECONOMICAL FEASIBILITY OF MAINTAINING NORFOLK AS AN
EFFECTIVE OPERATING UNIT QUESTIONABLE. THE ESTIMATED COST
TO PLACE USS NORFOLK IN OPERATING CONDITION AND EFFECT RE-
PAIRS TO EXISTING WEAPONS SYSTEMS AND EQUIPMENT IS 10.5
MILLION DOLLARS. END FYI. RUSH

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NNN

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